

tions whenever they could secure instruction for their candidate. Several who are opposed to instructions this year were demanding instructions in 1904.

Dishonesty is no better in politics than it is in business and it is dishonest to conceal one's real reasons for opposing instructions. Instructions are DEMOCRATIC and they are HONEST. Let the instructions begin at the primary and continue up to county and state conventions. Every delegate to the national convention ought to be instructed, then a nomination will come, not from the delegates, but from the people. As, however, many questions may arise in a convention which can not be covered by instructions it is not sufficient to have a good platform and binding instruction—the delegates should be in hearty sympathy with the instructions. It is not safe to fill up a convention with delegates who are bound by instructions to vote right but who counsel with, and lend their influence to, the enemy.

This is not a time for personal compliments; we are engaged in a campaign where great interests are at stake. The public welfare must not be sacrificed to please any one. As the voice of the people ought to be the voice of the government, so the voice of the rank and file ought to be the voice of the party. Let the will of the voters be expressed on the platform and on the candidates—and then let delegates be chosen who faithfully reflect the sentiment expressed in the platform and instructions.



DEMOCRATIC DINNERS

Mr. Bryan has been attending more banquets. They seem to increase in number and enthusiasm. The first was at Guthrie, Okla., which was held in the evening after an address to the legislature. Some five hundred democrats of the young state crowded about the tables and each speaker pledged Oklahoma's electoral vote to the democratic ticket.

A large public meeting was held at Wichita under the auspices of the Bryan club, just before the banquet, and several meetings were held in Texas just afterward. Everywhere throughout the portion of the south visited, the democrats feel confident of national victory.

Mr. Bryan celebrated Jackson day with the Jacksonian club at Omaha, on the 6th, with the Jefferson club, Chicago, on the 8th and with the Bryan Democracy of Danville, Ill., on the 9th. The attendance at each of these banquets was measured by the capacity of the hall and speakers of prominence discussed pending questions and told of democrats returning to the fold and of republicans who promised to support the ticket.

The last of the series of banquets was held at Lincoln on January 15. It will be described more at length on another page. One thousand and two people sat down to the tables, while as many more occupied seats in the gallery. The speakers from outside the state were Governor Haskell of Oklahoma, Governor Broward of Florida, ex-Senator Patterson of Colorado, Hon. J. B. Sullivan of Iowa, and Hon. Henry Warrum of Indianapolis.

Within a month the democrats of Nebraska have attended three democratic banquets and a total of some 2,700 were present. This is a pretty good start for the campaign of 1908. Keep an eye on Nebraska.



ORGANIZING IN NEBRASKA

The democratic state committee for Nebraska met in Lincoln in consultation with a large number of democrats January 15. The convention, which will elect delegates to the national convention, was called for March 5 at Omaha. Christian Gruenther of Columbus was chosen secretary and A. S. Tibbetts of Lincoln treasurer of the state committee. A state Bryan club was organized, this club to be known as "The Bryan Volunteers of Nebraska" with an initial membership of more than 1,000. A preliminary campaign fund of \$500 was raised besides the money pledged as membership in the "Bryan Volunteers."

Referring to this organization the Omaha World-Herald says: "The committee working with the assembled democrats adopted and completed plans for a state organization to be known as 'The Bryan Volunteers of Nebraska.'" While the organization is essentially democratic in purpose, the plan of organization does not limit the membership to avowed democrats, but throws open its doors to men of all political affiliations who desire to become affiliated with the fight to be made this fall for Mr. Bryan.

"The plan of the organization as announced

in its preamble to the report submitted by the subcommittee on organization is 'to advance the principles of democracy as taught by Thomas Jefferson, defended by Andrew Jackson and advocated by W. J. Bryan.'

"All persons who can subscribe to this platform or who can believe in Bryan and Bryanism are invited to enroll themselves as members of this league.

"It is contemplated that the state club shall become the parent of countless subsidiary clubs to be organized in every county, community or precinct of the state. The membership in the state organization costs \$5, with annual dues of a like amount. The money thus raised is to be devoted to the cause of the campaign. Membership in any of the offspring clubs may be whatever the local members of the clubs choose to make it.

"The officers of the club as elected at the organization are Arthur Mullen of O'Neill, president; C. M. Gruenther of Columbus, secretary; E. O. Gilbert of York, treasurer. The vice presidents from each of the congressional districts are as follows: First, H. H. Hanks, Nebraska City; Second, T. J. O'Connor, Omaha; Third, Dr. D. J. Gates, Albion; Fourth, C. M. Lemar, Wahoo; Fifth, F. T. Swanson, Clay Center; Sixth, Jess Gandy, Broken Bow."



ERIE COUNTY DEMOCRATS

The Buffalo (N. Y.) Times of January 16 prints the following:

At a largely attended meeting of the democratic general committee held in the Brisbane headquarters at 1 o'clock this afternoon a resolution was passed endorsing William J. Bryan as Erie county's choice for the democratic presidential nomination. The motion was seconded by O. J. Colborn. The committee also pledged itself to work for the selection of delegates to the state convention who would vote for Mr. Bryan's nomination. The committee declared in favor, in brief, of an instructed delegation from this county.

In the action taken the committee reflects the sentiment of the rank and file of the party of this county. The resolutions, presented by Committeeman Diebold, follow:

Whereas, it is evident that the sentiment of the democratic voters of the county of Erie, New York, is in favor of the nomination of William J. Bryan for president by the national democratic convention to be held at Denver, Colorado, in July, 1908, and it is their desire that the delegates from the county of Erie to that convention support his candidacy, be it

Resolved, That this democratic general committee of Erie county hereby pledges itself to the support of William J. Bryan for the nomination for president by the national democratic convention. And, be it further

Resolved, That when the delegates from Erie county to the democratic state convention are elected they be instructed to vote for delegates who will support William J. Bryan for the presidential nomination at the national democratic convention.

General Committeeman Edward M. Mills of the Twenty-fourth ward moved that a committee composed of National Committeeman Norman E. Mack, Chairman William J. Conners of the democratic state committee, Chairman Edward E. Coatsworth of the democratic county committee and State Committeemen John J. Kennedy, Henry P. Burgard and Matthew G. Merzig be appointed to make all necessary arrangements for the meeting to be addressed by the Hon. William J. Bryan in Buffalo on February 12. This resolution was also adopted.



NEW YORK DEMOCRATS

A dispatch to the Omaha World-Herald, under date of New York, January 16, follows: "Resolutions pledging the support of the Progressive Democratic League to the candidacy of William J. Bryan for the presidency were adopted at a mass meeting held under the auspices of the league at Cooper Union tonight. The principle address was made by Senator Jefferson Davis of Arkansas. Senator Davis and Senator Thomas Gore of Oklahoma, who was also a guest of the league, received ovations as they appeared on the platform.

"The resolutions, after reciting that the rank and file of the democracy of New York state are practically unanimous for the nomination of Mr. Bryan by the Denver convention and charging that when he last was the candidate of the democratic party he was defeated by the use of corruption funds, states: 'Therefore, be

it resolved, that we declare that it is due alike to Mr. Bryan himself and to the integrity of our party that he should be elected to the high office of chief magistrate of the nation and we hereby pledge to him our support and our aid to that end."

The resolutions were declared unanimously adopted.

A letter of regret from Mayor Johnson of Cleveland, who had been invited to be present, was read.

Senator Davis predicted the nomination and election of Mr. Bryan. A change of administration was needed, he said. The Declaration of Independence was now, he said, a stranger to most people and something was wrong with the ship of state.

Senator Davis said in part: "This is an age of greed and graft. Men have gone crazy in the pursuit of dollars. You can not eat money. There will be no pocket in your shroud. Saint Peter won't take it. Where are you going? Where are we drifting as a government? Ever since this government started there has been a fight. On one side men skilled in such warfare and on the other the plain, common people. They are wanting you as they never did before. One side has captured the government. It is inside the breastworks, it has amassed all the money—money is but the means to an end, and it opens the door to everything—the side in the breastworks has enacted laws that have given them unusual advantages."

Senator Davis then took up the tariff, declaring that the trusts owned one thirty-fifth of all the wealth in the United States. He said he had recently advocated taking away the charter and privileges of trusts as a remedy, and he defied any lawyer to say the government did not have the right to do this.

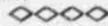
"Gentlemen," he said, "if the government does not destroy the trusts, the trusts will destroy the government.

"Ninety-seven per cent of the newspapers of the country," he declared, "had been subsidized by the trusts.

"Why, down in Arkansas I got them on the run. Why, down there you can't convict a free nigger for shooting craps on the testimony of a newspaper."

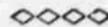
"I don't believe any man on earth ever made a million dollars honestly," said the senator and the crowd shouted approval. Senator Davis said he would force the judiciary committee of the senate to report on his trust bill and he would continue to be a thorn in its side, in season and out of season, until it did report.

He knew Bryan, he said, and then added, raising both arms above his head, reverently, "God bless that man."



KANSAS DEMOCRATS

A Topeka, Kan., dispatch dated January 16, follows: "The democratic state central committee today selected Hutchinson as the meeting place of the convention to elect national delegates on February 21. The central committee will meet February 20 at Hutchinson to fix a date for a convention to nominate state officers. Bryan was formally indorsed for president today."



TREASON! TREASON!

The Philadelphia North-American (rep.) says: "The New York banks owe the banks of the country \$500,000,000. For a month they have refused arbitrarily to pay. They actually indulge in self-praise because they have consented, reluctantly and under pressure, to settle some sixteen per cent of that debt largely with the government's money newly deposited with them. We face now the indisputable fact that all gold importations, all the deposits of treasury money, all the questionable bond and debt certificate deals have been done for one solitary purpose—to put New York in a position to pay its debts. Let the humiliating admission be made frankly. All signs point to easier money. But whether or not those signs will be fulfilled depends upon the will of Wall Street. The country has paid a tremendous blackmail for permission to resume legitimate business. But no guarantee is gained that agriculture, commerce and industry will not be held to ransom again, and yet again, whenever it suits Wall Street's pleasure. Until our financial system is changed American business is at the mercy of Manhattan's gamblers."

Has the North-American no concern for the "business interests of the country?" Is it indifferent to the national honor? Has it turned traitor to its country that it would make such a vicious assault upon the men who permit the country to exist?